

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A fiber-optic cable includes a conductive coating formed around an
5 optical fiber. The conductive coating may be in the shape of a band or ring
located at a terminal end of the fiber, or may extend along the entire length of
the fiber or a portion thereof. For protection purposes, the fiber is covered
with a buffer made from a plastic or polymer. The fiber-optic cable may be
attached to a plug or receptacle of a connector. Preferably, the cable is
10 attached to the plug. Under these circumstances, the receptacle would be
equipped with a verification circuit for confirming that the plug has been
properly installed into the receptacle housing. An electronic device may be
used to alert a user as to whether proper installation has occurred. In addition
to providing an indication that an optical connection has been made, the
15 conductive coating may be adapted to carry electrical signals. In this way, the
fiber-optic cable would operate as an electrical transmission line and an
optical transmission line.

100 99 98 97 96 95 94 93 92 91 90 89 88 87 86 85 84 83 82 81 80 79 78 77 76 75 74 73 72 71 70 69 68 67 66 65 64 63 62 61 60 59 58 57 56 55 54 53 52 51 50 49 48 47 46 45 44 43 42 41 40 39 38 37 36 35 34 33 32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1